



This version of a Dunham coat of arms appeared in the Nov. 1977 DD, & since the mailing list is now almost totally different & new "subscribers" have expressed a wish to see it, we'll present it again. The drawing is Editor Kitson's interpretation of the coat of arms shown in an advertising flyer for the Isaac W. Dunham genealogy, ca. 1906, & also in the Sophie Dunham Moore Dunham genealogy, published 1966. The 6 quarterings represent (1 & 6) the Dunham family; (2) the Bowett line; (3) the LaZouche line; (4) the de Bergh line; & (5) the Bellaqua. Those who discredit the LENGTH of the Dunham pedigree will not appreciate this coat of arms, feeling that Isaac was not vigilante enough, at least not semper.



**DUNHAM/DENHAM?**

From Gratia Mahony (now living in Russia, but who can be addressed care of her daughter, Jane Howington, 1344 Dana Drive, Oxford, OH 45056), we have this article which presents an interesting theory regarding the Thomas Dunham problem & (only a bit later) the Nathaniel Dunham problem. "Thomas Dunham" was the son ascribed by I. W. D. to Deacon John Dunham, but whose son Thomas is now believed to have died as a very little child. This discovery left quite a large branch of the family without any ancestral "home." The 2nd problem -- the one pertaining to Nathaniel Dunham (1665-1731)(3)(Deacon John 1?, Joseph 2?) & his many descendants -- is similar. More recent research indicates that this Nathaniel was not the son of Joseph (1636?-1703)(2)(Deacon John 1). Here is Gratia's article:

**WAS MR. THOMAS DENHAM, PURITAN PARSON THE FATHER OF NATHANIEL OF WRENTHAM and HEBRON?**

Gratia Dunham Mahony

I have been making steady progress on the Dunham research. Yes, I do still receive the DD, and keep working on placing all the people mentioned therein. A lot of those people are from the "Nathaniel of Wrentham & Hebron" line and I have not done as much work on that line yet as I have on the Descendants of Deacon John Dunham, of Plymouth line. The reason I've worked first on the Plymouth line is to see if there is any possibility of a connection between the two lines. Those possibilities are all but eliminated.

I do have a theory on the parentage of "Nathaniel Dunham of Wrentham & Hebron" however, and I would like to submit that theory to readers of DD. I would urge readers to refer to the article "Mr. Thomas Denham, Puritan Parson" in The American Genealogist (TAG) Vol. 36, p. 229-242, by George E. McCracken, pub. 1960. Reference to that article notes that Thomas Denham was born about 1621, married Sarah, and had six children. Thomas Denham made his will on 2 May, 1688 naming his daughter Rebecca Hinckson of "Sheep's Gutt", now Sheepscoot, Lincoln Co., Maine; his sons Isaac, Nathaniel and Josiah; and two youngest daughters Sarah and Hannah. Mr. Denham died in 1688 in Bedford, Westchester Co., New York, at the age of 67 years.

No marriage record has been found, and there are no extant birth or baptismal records for the six children mentioned in the will of Thomas Denham. It appears from reading that will, and the above mentioned article that approximate dates can be assigned for the six children. (1) Rebecca, b. ca. 1656, (2) Isaac, b. say 1660, (3) Nathaniel, b. say 1665, (4), Sarah, b. say 1668, (5) Hannah, b. say 1670-71, (6) Josiah, b. say 1673.

The will of Thomas Denham's son Isaac Denham was made 22 Feb. 1723/4. Bequests include his wife Hannah; eldest sister Rebecca; to loving brother Nathaniel Denham he leaves 90 pounds of Connecticut money; and children of sisters Sarah and Hannah. Josiah Denham died before 22 Feb. 1723/4 without surviving issue, since neither he nor any children are mentioned in the will of his brother Isaac.

In the TAG article, Mr McCracken states that he found no further trace of Nathaniel Denham, the second son mentioned in the will of Mr. Thomas Denham. Mr. McCracken does note that the bequest of Nathaniel's brother Isaac Denham is "to be paid in Connecticut money, and he may have been living there".

I have done considerable research in trying to locate possible movement of Nathaniel Denham. Little has been found. There is a reference in NEHGR 3:347 in which Nathaniell Dunnam (sic) is listed as a "Freeman" of the town of Malden, Mass. on 22 March 1689-90. While we do not know if this is



DUNHAM/DENHAM? (cont'd from p. 2)

Nathaniel Denham, son of Thomas, we do know that Rebecca (dau. of Thomas) lived in Sheepscott Maine, Portsmouth NH, and Lynn, Mass. We also know that Rev. Thomas Denham was in Saco Maine in 1659, and in Sheepscott Maine in 1664 before residing at Rye (now in NY) from 1677 to 1684, and being called to the ministry at Bedford in 1687.

Presumably Thomas Denham's son Nathaniel was living with the family while they were in Sheepscott Maine and Rye, but after the age of 20 years or so he might well have been ready to settle elsewhere. If the "Nathaniel of Wrentham and Hebron" was indeed the son of Rev. Thomas Denham the estimated date of birth (1665), and the birth of his first child on 3 August 1690 (Wrentham VR 1:65) are appropriate. One other piece of evidence should be noted, and that is the names of the children of Nathaniel of Wrentham. The children were: i. Mary b. 1690, ii. Nathaniel b. 1693 d.y., iii. Mehitable b. 1694-5, iv. Thomas b. 1697, v. Nathaniel (again) b. 1699/1700, vi. Obadiah b. 1701, vii. Jabez b. 1704, viii. Isaac b. 1711. The children Thomas and Isaac could have been named for the father and brother of Nathaniel.

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Gratia wants to make it very clear to all that at this point her theory is only that, & that no proofs have been found. Of course, her theory may well be a sound one, but Dunhams in these huge branches need not rush to the courthouse to change the spelling of their name to DENHAM.

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#### GEOGRAPHIC INDEX TO COME -- SOMEDAY

Among the many Dunhams & Dunham descendants who are not already tied in with their American Dunham roots, it often happens that individuals know, specifically, where their great great grandfather, for instance, lived at a particular period. There the story stops, & they can't get any further back. With this in mind, it becomes clear that a geographic index would be most helpful. There is a possibility that such an instrument could provide generations & generations of ancestry. At the least, it might highlight other relatives who lived close by, & since few families migrated singly, that information could lead to important clues.

The undertaking of a project of the scope of a geographic index is a rather daunting one (It's been daunting me for some time!), especially so with a family as LARGE as the Dunhams. Also, there are several methods of approaching it; How to know which one is best? Whatever method is adopted, there would be limitations. The one that seems best, at the moment, would be to index first by state, then by specific locality within the state, & then by volume & page number. This would omit any consideration of the date that Family X lived in that area, which would be nice to include. However, to say that Family X was there in 1860 might imply that they were not there in 1859 or 1861, which could be inaccurate. This system would also omit names, which seems an even bigger drawback. Those names might be Dunham names, or they might be other surnames, the names of married Dunham daughters & their families. Big drawback to leave that kind of information out!

But is it? If there is an index that will provide a way of locating relatives who lived in the same area as Great Great Granddad, & the volume & page where that data is to be found -- well, that's a resource we haven't had up to now, isn't it? Having to work within the confines of the indexing program, it seems that state, town, volume & page are the most crucial elements to include ---- So here we go! But not with any noticeable speed. It is too darn hot to spend any more time than necessary in our tiny computer room. Phyllis S. Kitson

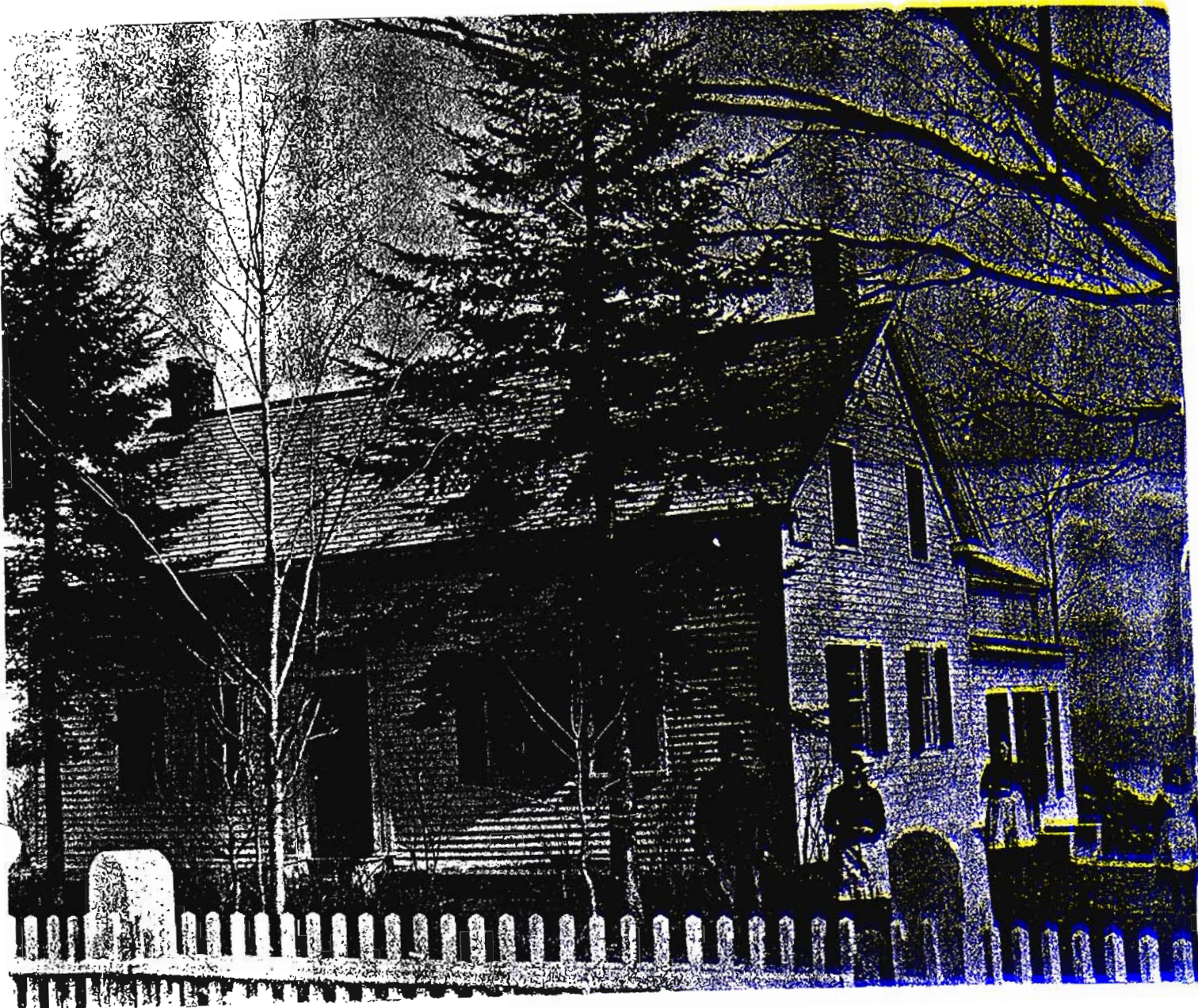


## *HISTORY OF A HOUSE*

More on the fascinating subject of "architectural genealogy" comes from Donna Hawks, Spring, TX. It concerns the Washington County, NY home of Jonathan Dunham (1752-1833)(6)(Deacon John 1, Benijah 2, Edmond 3, Jonathan 4, Jonathan 5). He & his wife, Eunice Dunn, moved from Piscataqua, NJ in 1793 to their New York homestead, which then consisted of 400 acres on the Kenyon Hill Road in Mt. Colfax (Jackson).

Jonathan's son Nahum (1774-1832?) must have passed the home down to his son Samuel (1809-1849), who in turn passed it to his son Henry Norton Dunham (1842-1926). The photo below, taken in the 1880's, shows Henry with his 3 daughters: Mary N. (later Mrs. Henry Carter)(1865-1933); Fanny A. (later Mrs. Henry S. Hunt)(1867-1930); & Lydia R. (later Mrs. Dan Wood) (1870-1958).

Donna believes that this picture was taken by a traveling photographer, who then sold it to the family, a common practice of the period. Apparently Henry's wife & sons were (cont'd p. 5)



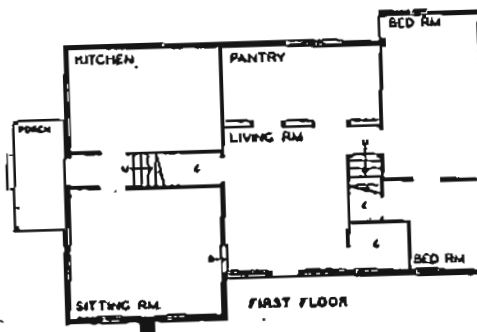
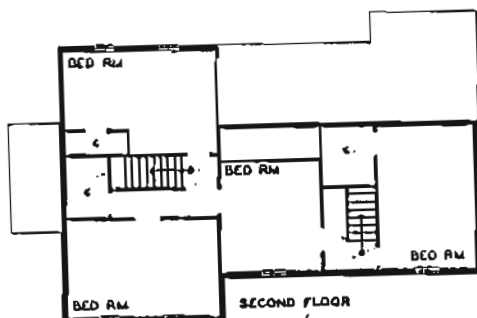


HISTORY OF A HOUSE (from p. 4) not available at the moment to come outside & join the picture.

Though no longer in the Dunham family (& no longer with all that acreage), this house still stands. Over the years it has of course gone through extensive remodeling. An article concerning it that was published in the Feb. 1947 issue of HOUSE & GARDEN included the small side view of the house & the floor plan (both shown below). Whether this floor plan was the original one or not, we can't be certain.

The wintry view at the bottom shows the same house as it appears in 1996, age 203.

BEFORE



Original farm and barn over 150 years old



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